



Kenai Peninsula Borough School District  
Golden Apple Award

# *Yolanda Schrader*

## *English Language Learner Tutor*

Yolanda Schrader served as an English Language Learner tutor at many different schools during her tenure with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District spanning from 1980 to 2012. As an English Language Learner (ELL) Tutor, Schrader has an intuitive sense of how to reach individual students. She pinpoints their needs and uses effective strategies to address those needs. An active participant in professional development, she also sought other avenues to improve her practice. She is described as being reliable, forthright, tenacious, dedicated, reflective, and collaborative. The students she tutored have consistently made gains on their large-scale assessments.

In her work as an itinerant tutor, Schrader was required to work at several schools and in doing so, met with a wide variety of personalities. She is adept at communicating with and collaborating with teachers and administration in a way that is efficient and effective. She advocated for her students and sought out interventions and supports they might need in addition to ELL support. Christine Ermold, former Sterling Elementary principal said, "My students and I were very fortunate to have the opportunity to get to know Yolanda and benefit from her generosity, wisdom, and service."

In addition to her regular duties, and going above and beyond in those duties, she engaged in outreach to parents and families outside the workday. For example, last year she stayed after school to provide English tutoring to the parents of some of her students, and helped them work toward U.S. citizenship. Schrader generously gave of her time to help classroom teachers plan and adapt instruction for their new students. She shared personal teaching materials with teachers at a variety of sites, and never hesitated to offer whatever support she could for someone who was trying to help improve the skills of a student. When her service was needed at a different school, she warmly welcomed the new tutor and spent as much time as was needed to support and train her replacement. She shared lesson plans, teaching materials, and toolbox of strategies in a gentle and encouraging manner that helped new (ELL) tutors develop skills similar to her own.

Through her generosity, Yolanda's service benefitted far more than just the students to whom she was directly assigned to work. As a result of the support and assistance she gave throughout KPBSD schools and community, she has greatly enhanced our District's ability to welcome and nurture students and families who are new to the English language!

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education is proud to recognize Mrs. Yolanda Schrader for her dedication to the students, parents, and staff in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.